IN THE CLAIMS:

1-9 (Cancelled)

10. (New) A safety shoe for professional use, said safety shoe comprising:

a shoe body with a safety class;

a transponder mounted on said shoe body and supplying data to allow identification of the shoe, said data including safety data allowing identification of said safety class to which the shoe belongs and/or verification of a consistency of said safety class of the shoe when accessing a specific working area.

11. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 10, wherein a manufacturing date of the shoe is stored in said transponder.

12. (New) A shoe according to claim 10, wherein data allowing monitoring of treatments performed on said shoe are stored in said transponder.

13. (New) A shoe according to claim 10, wherein said transponder further includes one or more of the following: a number/name of said shoe; a size of the shoe; a color of the shoe; a univocal code identifying the shoe; user identification data.

14. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 10, wherein said transponder is incorporated in

said shoe body so as to make any loss and/or replacement reasonably difficult and/or easy to identify.

15. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 10, wherein said transponder is positioned in such a way that it may be recovered and re-used.

16. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 10, wherein said transponder is incorporated in a bottom of the shoe.

17. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 10, wherein said transponder is inserted between an insole and a sole of said shoe body.

18. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 10, wherein said transponder is inserted in an upper or in accessory parts of said upper in a specific housing.

19. (New) A pair of safety shoes according to claim 10, wherein each shoe of said pair includes a transponder, said transponders including data for returning said pair of shoes to an individual owner or user.

20. (New) A safety shoe system comprising:

a shoe body constructed according to a safety class;

a transponder mounted on said shoe body and including safety data identifying said safety class of said shoe body, said transponder including a transmitter for transmitting said safety data.

21. (New) A system in accordance with claim 20, further comprising:

a receiver spaced from said shoe body and receiving said safety data transmitted by said transponder;

an access apparatus associated with a safety area, said access apparatus being connected to said receiver and receiving said safety data from said receiver, said access apparatus determining if said shoe body and said transponder have access to said safety area based on said safety data.

22. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 20, wherein:

said safety data includes a manufacturing date of said shoe body.

23. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 20, wherein:

said safety data includes treatments performed on said shoe body.

24. (New) A shoe as claimed in claim 20, wherein:

said safety data includes identification of said shoe body.

25. (New) A safety shoe method comprising the steps of:

providing a shoe body constructed according to a safety class;

providing a transponder mounted on said shoe body and including safety data identifying said safety class of said shoe body;

transmitting said safety data to a safety area;

determining if said shoe body and said transponder have access to said safety area based on said safety data.